

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN MEDICINE

POLICY ON WITHDRAWING LICENSE APPLICATIONS

POLICY 2017- 04

Adopted October 26, 2017

The Legislature has granted the Board broad statutory authority to protect the public health. M.G.L. c. 112, c. 13, § 10; c. 112, §§ 2 and 5. Included within the Board's express and implied powers to issue or deny a medical license, the Board has the discretionary authority to approve or deny a request by an applicant to withdraw his or her license application. Pursuant to 243 CMR 2.04(13), an applicant may withdraw his or her completed application for licensure prior to its review by the Licensing Committee.

In the interests of patient safety, the Board of Registration in Medicine (Board) seeks to make its licensing determinations transparent to other state medical boards. Accordingly, once the application has been placed on the agenda of the Licensing Committee, an applicant generally may not withdraw his or her license application. In extraordinary circumstances, an applicant may ask the full Board for permission to withdraw. Only the full Board will hear requests to withdraw. The applicant's request shall contain an explanation of the reason(s) for withdrawal and state how withdrawal will not harm the public health, safety and welfare. Approval to withdraw a license application shall require a unanimous vote of the Board.